

Interview Summary

1. On May 20, 2011, the examiner and the applicant's representative had a telephone conference. During the interview, the examiner expressed the proposed claims are product-by-process claims. The examiner also confirmed Kitahara does not disclose the claimed process steps and understands that Kitahara's dry PTFE granules and dry flame retardant granules are mixed together so that each set of dry granules contact each other only in a point wise manner. Applicant appreciated the examiner's understanding.

Despite that understanding, the examiner expressed that it will retain the rejection until the claims set forth a measurable characteristic that distinguishes the claimed invention from Kitahara's composition and limits the term "fluoropolymer" in claim 1 to "PTFE" since the specification only discloses PTFE and not other fluoropolymers.

Applicant's representative respectfully traversed the examiner's decision and attempted to explore what the examiner was specifically seeking in the claims to obtain an allowance. Obviously, no agreement was reached. Notwithstanding the non-agreement, Applicant appreciates the time and effort the examiner took to understand and appreciate the claimed invention.